



Margaret Mitchell MSP
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

9 January 2013

Chief Executive's Office
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Dear Ms Mitchell

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION S4W-11789
Strike Action by Solicitors

The Cabinet Secretary in his response to the above PQ indicated that it relates to operational matters within the responsibility of the Scottish Court Service corporate body. I am now writing to you in response to the matter you have raised.

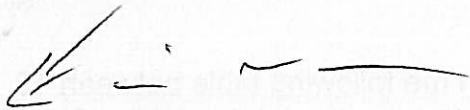
S4W- 11789. Margaret Mitchell asks: **how many (a) courts have been affected and (b) cases have been delayed by strike action by solicitors in November and December 2012.**

Disruption by Solicitors has taken place as detailed in the following table between 19 November and 3 December to date. The table also contains the total number of individuals who appeared at each court for custody and who appeared unrepresented by a solicitor. Also detailed is the duration of the continuation where an accused appeared represented and the case was continued without plea. A total of 29 cases were continued. 17 were continued for 1 day, the remaining were continued for between 2 and 17 days.

Date	Court where there was disruption by Solicitors	Number of individuals appearing from custody	Number of individuals who appeared from custody and were unrepresented with the case being continued without plea. (number and duration of continuation)
19 Nov	Edinburgh	36	2 (1 x 1 day and 1 x 17 days)
27 Nov	Edinburgh	52	5 (all x 1 day)
27 Nov	Paisley	26	0
27 Nov	Glasgow	165	8 (7 x 1 day & 1 x 2 days)
3 Dec	Aberdeen	24	1 case (1 x day)
3 Dec	Alloa	6	0
3 Dec	Arbroath	1	0
3 Dec	Dundee	24	0
3 Dec	Dunfermline	9	3 (3 x 1 day)
3 Dec	Falkirk	13	0
3 Dec	Kirkcaldy	25	8 (1 x 14 days, 1 x 15, 1 x 4, 1 x 11, 1 x 7, 3 x 17 days)
3 Dec	Perth	11	2 (2 x 8 days)

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre and published on the Scottish Court Service website.

Yours sincerely



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